to be spent in an adopted District has come to force ;

(b) if so, whether the amount of rupees 10 lakhs, announced for being spent for the period upto March, 1994, has been put into force ;

(c) whether the two schemes announced on the last day of previous session have not yet come into force, if so, by when they will come into force ; and

(d) whether it is a fact that no communication in this regard has been received from Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) to (d) The scheme entitled "MPs Local Area Development Scheme" has become operational February, 1994 under which each MP has the choice to suggest to the District Collector, works to the tune of Rs. 1 crore per year (the cost of individual project should not exceed Rs. 10 lakh) to be taken up in their respective constituencies. For exercising the choice under this scheme, Members of Rajya Sabha may select any district from the State from where they have been elected. For the year 1993-94, a sum of Rs. 5 lakh per Member of Parliament has been sanctioned to the States on 22nd February, 1994 to enable the scheme to commence immediately. Copies of the Guidelines have been sent to all MPs and State Governments.

Constitutional Status to wilkinson rule in Bihar

1512. SHRI GAYA SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in 1988 it was announced by the then Prime Minister, late Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at Lohardagga public meeting, for granting constitutional status to Wilkinson rule and other Panchayat's like it, in the tribal belt of Bihar ;

(b) if so, what are the obstacles in its implementation, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government are going to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Implementation of Employment Assurance Scheme

1513. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received encouraging reports from the States and Union Territories about implementation of the Employment Assurance Scheme, announced by the Prime Minister on the 'Independence Day', last year ; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard indicating the amount released to different States, UTs and the employment generated thereby ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) is being implemented w.e.f. 2-10-1993 in 1754 blocks of the country covered under the Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS). As per the reports received from the States/UTs, action regarding registration of persons, issue of family cards, preparation of Shelf of projects etc. have been completed in most of the States/UTs. Expenditure on EAS is shared between Centre and States in the ratio of 80:20. Since the Scheme is to be implemented during the lean agricultural season only, effective implementation has taken place in States/UTs where lean agricultural season has coincided with the period starting from 2-10-1993.

A statement giving State-wise Central assistance released so far for implementation of EAS during 1993-94 and mandays of employment generated under EAS is attached.